Listing and Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace the claims that were published in the PCT Application:

1. (currently amended) Method of reproduction within an audio documents reproduction apparatus ~~characterized in that~~ <u>wherein</u> it comprises the following steps:

   - partitioning of the documents into groups of documents possessing at least one similar audio characteristic,

   - determination of at least one audio document representing each group,

   - positioning of a plurality of audio documents in a space, the positioning of an audio document being dependent on at least one characteristic of the document, the user occupying a position in the said space,

   - reproduction of at least one identifier of a document representing a group, the reproduced identifier or identifiers having a position situated at a distance less than a determined distance with respect to the position of the user in the space.

2. (currently amended) Method of reproduction according to Claim 1; ~~characterized in that~~ <u>wherein</u> it comprises a step of introducing commands for navigating group wise, each command activating the reproduction of at least one identifier representing the graphically emphasized group.

3. (currently amended) Method of reproduction according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~; ~~characterized in that~~ <u>wherein</u> it comprises a step of introducing a command activating the reproduction of audio documents within the group whose identifier is reproduced, the reproduction of audio documents being performed in a predetermined order.

4. (currently amended) Method of reproduction according to ~~any one of the preceding claims; characterized in that~~ <u>claim 1, wherein</u> the step of determination comprises a step of representation of the documents in a space whose number of dimensions is equal to the number of audio parameters, and whose documents are associated with points disposed within this space, the determination of a document of the group as representative of this group depending on the distance between the

the points associated with the documents of the group and the point associated with this document.

5.   (currently amended) Method of reproduction according to Claim 4; ~~characterized in that~~ <u>wherein</u> the step of representation comprises a step of projection onto a space of determined dimension of the points associated with the documents of the set and possessing as coordinates the audio parameters, the calculation of distance between the equibarycentre of the group and the point associated with this document being performed in the projection space.

6. (currently amended) Method of reproduction according to ~~any one of~~ Claims 4 ~~or 5~~; ~~characterized in that~~ <u>wherein</u> the documents representing a group are associated with points whose distances from the equibarycentre of the points of the documents of the group lie in a determined interval.

7. (currently amended) Method of reproduction according to ~~any one of~~ Claims 4 ~~to 6 under the dependence of Claim 3~~; ~~characterized in that~~ <u>wherein</u> the predetermined order of reproduction of the documents of a group consists in commencing with that whose point is the closest to the barycentre, and thereafter in taking those situated further and further away.

8.   (currently amended) Method of reproduction according to Claim 1 ~~to 3~~; ~~characterized in that~~ <u>wherein</u> a representative document of a group possesses low-level parameters whose values are close to the average of the values of the documents of the group.

9.   (currently amended) Method of reproduction according to ~~any one of the preceding~~ claims <u>1</u>; ~~characterized in that~~ <u>wherein</u> if several documents are representatives of a group, the reproduction of each of the documents is performed sequentially during a determined period.

10. (currently amended) Method of reproduction according to ~~any one of the preceding~~ claims 1 ; ~~characterized in that~~ wherein it comprises a step of reception by the reproduction apparatus of the values of the audio parameters, these values participating in the step of partitioning and in the step of determination of the documents representing the groups.

11. (currently amended) Method of reproduction according to ~~any one of the preceding~~ claims 1; ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the reproduced identifier is of sound nature.

12. (currently amended) Method of reproduction according to ~~any one of the preceding~~ claims 1; ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the reproduced identifier is of graphical nature.

13. (currently amended) Audio documents reproduction apparatus ~~(1; 5.1)~~ comprising a means of command introduction ~~(8, 5.8);~~ ~~characterized in that~~ wherein it comprises furthermore

- a means of calculation ~~(3, 12, 5.3, 5.12)~~ for partitioning documents into groups of documents possessing at least one similar audio characteristic,

- a means of determination ~~(3, 12; 5.3, 5.12)~~ of at least one document representing each group,

- a means of calculation ~~(3, 12, 5.3, 5.12)~~ of positioning data ~~(xi, yi)~~ associated with each document in a space, the data being determined by at least one characteristic specific to the document, a positioning datum also being assigned to the position of the user within the space,

- a means of selection ~~(3, 12, 5.3, 5.12)~~ of at least one document representing a group, the selected document or documents having a position situated at a distance less than a determined distance with respect to the position of the user in the space,

- a means of reproduction ~~(10, 11; 5.1, 5.11)~~ of at least one identifier of at least one document representing a group.

14. (currently amended) Audio documents reproduction apparatus according to Claim 13; ~~characterized in that~~ wherein it furthermore comprises a groupwise navigation commands introduction means ~~(8; 5.8)~~, each command activating the reproduction of at least one identifier representing the graphically emphasized group.

15. (currently amended) Audio documents reproduction apparatus according to Claim 13 ~~or 14~~; ~~characterized in that~~ wherein it comprises a means of introduction of a command ~~(8; 5.8)~~ activating the means of reproduction ~~(10, 11; 5.1, 5.11)~~ of audio documents within the group whose identifier is reproduced, the reproduction of audio documents being performed in a predetermined order.

16. (currently amended) Audio documents reproduction apparatus according ~~to any one of~~ Claims 13 ~~to 15~~; ~~characterized in that~~ wherein it comprises a means of representation ~~(11)~~ of the documents in a space whose number of dimensions is equal to the number of audio parameters, and whose documents are associated with points disposed within this space, the means of determination of at least one document representing a group ~~(3, 12; 5.3, 5.12)~~ takes into account the distance between the equibarycentre of the points associated with the documents of the group and the point associated with this document.

17. (currently amended) Audio documents reproduction apparatus according to Claim 16; ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the means of determination of at least one document representing a group ~~(3, 12; 5.3, 5.12)~~ chooses those/that whose point is closest to the equibarycentre of the points of the documents of the group.

18. (currently amended) Audio documents reproduction apparatus according to ~~Claim 16 or 17 under the dependence of~~ Claim 15; ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the means of reproduction ~~(10, 11; 5.1, 5.11)~~ reproduces the documents commencing with that whose point is closest to the barycentre of the points associated with the documents of the group, and thereafter those situated further and further away from the barycentre.

19. (currently amended) Audio documents reproduction apparatus according to ~~any one of~~ Claims 13 ~~to 18~~; ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the means of determination of at least one document representing a group ~~(3, 12; 5.3, 5.12)~~ chooses those/that whose values of the audio characteristics are close to the average of the values of the documents of the group.

20. (currently amended) Audio documents reproduction apparatus according to ~~any one of~~ Claims 13 ~~to 19~~; ~~characterized in that~~ wherein if the means of determination ~~(3, 12; 5.3, 5.12)~~ has chosen several documents representing a group, the means of reproduction ~~(10, 11; 5.1, 5.11)~~ sequentially reproduces each identifier of the documents chosen during a determined period.

21. (currently amended) Audio documents reproduction apparatus according to ~~any one of~~ Claims 13 ~~to 20~~; ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the means of reproduction ~~(10, 11; 5.1, 5.11)~~ reproduces at least one sound identifier.

22. (currently amended) Audio documents reproduction apparatus according to ~~any one of~~ Claims 13 ~~to 20~~; ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the means of reproduction ~~(10, 11; 5.1, 5.11)~~ reproduces at least one graphical identifier.